

SAFETY ON THE LINE

A service of the NASA KSC Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate

January 1999 vol. 99/8

"Children have more need of models than of critics."

- Joseph Joubert

How Safe is your Home?

Frayed extension cords, slippery shower floors, untended pots of simmering soup: these and other hazards in American homes result in more

than 800 injuries every hour. But nearly all of these mishaps are easily preventable. Take this test and learn how to make your home a haven.

Questions

1. Most at-homes injuries are caused by
 - a) falls
 - b) poisonings
 - c) fires
2. How many smoke detectors do safety experts recommend having in your home?
 - a) one
 - b) one on each level
 - c) one in each room and hallway
3. Water from a water heater set on high can cause a severe burn in
 - a) five seconds
 - b) ten seconds
 - c) 15 seconds

Answers

1. **A.** Slips and falls account for 40 percent of household injuries. To help everyone stay upright, make sure that you have nonskid rugs and shower mats in the bathroom; put rubberized mats at the front and back doors; and keep the halls and stairways free of clutter.
2. **C.** But if having a smoke detector in every room is impractical, place one in the kitchen, outside each bedroom, at the head of each staircase, and in the basement and/or attic.
3. **A.** It takes just five seconds to get a third-degree burn from 140°F water. Set the water heater at 120°F or between low and medium. This will reduce the chance of a burn and lower your electric bill at the same time.

Super Safety Day Question & Answer



QUESTION: Could an alternative means of qualifying to purchase excess government equipment be chosen? The "run for the goods" method now employed at the Ransom Road facility is neither safe nor fair to those who are not as nimble as others.

ANSWER: Government sales are "open to the public" and sometimes draw large crowds of people. The retail sale is on a first come, first served basis. Improvements have been instituted to insure the safety of the public and these changes are working well. The perimeter gate at the Reutilization, Recycling, and Marketing Facility opens at 7:00 am and the public drives inside to park their vehicle near the sale area. Ropes have been arranged at the sale entrance to direct the public into a single line. At 9:00 am the public is reminded of the sale rules and then allowed to enter the sale area single file. This method is working well and no running has been observed either from the parking lot or upon entering the sale. Also, at the request of NASA, the General Services Administration has requested security guards present from SGS, formerly EG&G, to make sure the rules are observed. The security guards will eject anyone not obeying the rules.

Super Safety Day Question answered by Cathy Remely. Call her at 867-7027 if you have additional questions.



Do you have questions, comment, or an article you would like to submit? Contact Marguerite or Alan at 867-3311, fax number 867-3583, mail code EI-HF or e-mail them at "Safety on the Line" found in your global address list. Safety on the Line is also on the Web. Go to the KSC home page, then click on KSC internal page, then find us under NASA/KSC news.